



Sheila Dixon

Mayor,
Baltimore

250 City Hall • Baltimore Maryland 21202
410-396-3835 • Fax: 410-576-9425

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
July 31, 2007

CONTACT:
Anthony McCarthy
(410) 869-6079 (Cell)

Mayor Dixon Announces Major Funding for Oliver Community

Over \$1 Million to Help Rebuild Oliver Community

Baltimore, MD (July 31, 2007) – Mayor Sheila Dixon announced an award of over \$1 million to help construct 40 new homes in the Oliver Community. In partnership with Baltimoreans United in Leadership Development (BUILD) and The Reinvestment Fund (TRF), Mayor Dixon will commit to continue the rebuilding of East Baltimore.

“We are celebrating the beginning of yet another project to create affordable homeownership on the East side,” said Mayor Dixon. “We know that expanded home-ownership in Baltimore is one of the keys to continuing the progress we’ve made in the last several years.”

The city has committed \$1.2 million in HOME Funds to underwrite the cost of developing 40 homeownership units. Additionally, the Department of Housing and Community Development will deliver 17 properties approved by the Board of Estimates within the next 30 days. The city’s Acquisition Department is on schedule to obtain site control of the remaining 23 properties by the end of this year, and will continue coordinating with TRF regarding the timing of the delivery.

The Department of Housing and Community Development will post a RFP in response to TRF’s unsolicited bid by close of business on Friday, August 3rd. The announcement will state that the Agency has received and unsolicited proposal to acquire or renovate 155 properties in Oliver with the intent of creating new homeownership opportunities and will ask for other expressions of interest. The RFP will include language that reflects a desire for affordable homeownership units. Responses will be due at Baltimore Housing on Tuesday, September 4th, and the Agency expects to announce its decision no later than Wednesday, November 7th.

“Owning a home invests people in the future of their communities because it requires a higher level of personal commitment and a strong neighborhood means more value for the homeowner,” said Mayor Dixon. “We know that expanded home-ownership in Baltimore is one of the keys to continuing the progress we’ve made in the last several years.”

###

Please visit our website at www.baltimorecity.gov